Construction of hostels for SC students

288. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals received by Government to construct hostels for Scheduled Caste students under Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojana;

(b) the details of proposals approved, if any;

(c) the financial assistance approved/ disbursed in each case; and

(d) the details of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) During the current financial year, 40 proposals have been received for construction of hostels under the scheme.

(b) and (c) The details of proposals approved and financial assistance disbursed in each case are given at Statement-I (*See* below).

(d) The details of the scheme are given at Statement-II (*See* below).

Statement-I

Details of proposals approved and financial assistance disbursed

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	No. of Hostels 2008-09	Financial assistance disbursed in 2008-09 (Rs. In lakh)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7	437.50
2.	Assam	1*	2.62
3.	Jharkhand	4	83.16
4.	Karnataka	6	345.00
5.	Madhya Pradesh	13	566.68
6.	Orissa	30*	636.81
7.	Punjab	1	113.25
8.	Tamil Nadu	29*	297.33
9.	Tripura	1	27.52
	TOTAL:	92	2509.87

*Sanctioned in 2007-08. Arrears released in 2008-09.

Statement-II

Details of Scheme of Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojana

"Babu Jagjivan Ram Chaatrawas Yojana" has been revised w.e.f. 01.01.2008 so as to incorporate a few strategic changes in the schematic norms, especially for the benefit of SC girls. The revision also aims at including a few enabling provisions for a more efficacious implementation of the scheme towards the broader national goal of having an inclusive society.

The revised scheme has been given wide publicity by notifying it to all States/UTs, posting on the official website and publishing in annual calendar. The States/UT Govts. send proposals for construction of boys and girls hostels keeping in view SC population and rate of literacy in the area of construction. As soon as complete documents are received, the Ministry releases central share meant for construction of hostels. However, the maintenance of these hostels is taken care of by the implementing agencies concerned.

2. The salient modifications incorporated in the Scheme are as follows -

The Scheme has been named as "Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojana";

(a) 100% central assistance for girls' hostels, both for fresh construction and expansion of existing hostel buildings, to State Governments/UT Administrations and the Central and State Universities/institutions. Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and deemed universities in the private sector would be provided Central assistance to the extent of 90% of the estimated cost only for expansion of their existing hostels;

(b) The maximum permissible limit for duration of construction of hostels, both for girls and boys, will be reduced from the existing five to two years;

(c) The implementing agencies are required to involve Panchayati Raj institutions in the matter of selection of sites and overseeing the functioning of the hostels;

(d) Priority will be given for construction of hostels for middle and higher secondary levels of education;

(e) Monitoring system will be strengthened by constituting a Steering Committee under the Chairpersonship of Secretary, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. Besides, the existing provisions of annual progress reports would be rescheduled by stipulations of quarterly reports. The status of construction of the hostels as well as their maintenance and utilization will also be monitored by the Ministry through the field visits by its nodal officers;

(f) While sanctioning hostels, priority will be given to areas having concentration of SC population of 20% and more. Besides, preference will be given to integrated hostels (which are part of established educational institutions) over stand-alone hostels;

(g) In the case of sanction of girls' hostels, foremost priority will be given to areas having low SC female literacy. The girls' hostels will be constructed in close vicinity (as far as possible within a radius of 200 meters) of the educational institutions;

(h) Standard design with costing norms should be developed as benchmark by each State Governments/UT Administrations for approving the hostel projects for Central assistance; and

In addition to the admissible central assistance under the Scheme, one-time grant of Rs.2500 per student would also be provided for making provisions for a cot, a table and a chair for each student.